THOMPSON'S ISLAND

BEACON

Vol. 51 No. 1 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. May 1947

Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874

Campus Scene

The Annual Spring Concert

An enthusiastic audience of more than 600 attended the annual spring concert of the Band, in Faneuil Hall on April 27. This was the eleventh successive year that the spring concert has been given in this historic hall. It was the largest audience yet to have attended one of these annual concerts.

The program was opened by the playing of the spirited march "Peerless", by Huff. The enthusiasm and roars of applause which greeted this first number was just what was needed to spur the boys to give a performance second to none.

It was our great pleasure to have two of our former bandmasters present. Both were introduced and each led the boys in a lively march. First was Harold E. Brenton, a graduate of the Class of 1890.

Mr. Brenton began his musical career as a cornetist. He later was soloist with such renowned organizations as the Boston Symphony and Sousa's Band. He retired not long ago from his position as treasurer of the American Federation of Musicians. Throughout his lifetime he has worked unceasingly in the interest of American music of all forms, and it was a distinct privilege for the boys to play under his direction.

Next, another of our former bandmasters, Howard B. Ellis, '98 was called to the stage and spoke informally of his interest in the Band. He recalled that as early as 1859 the band had played at Faneuil Hall. Mr. Ellis has followed music as an avocation ever since leaving the School nearly a half century ago and has been a member of many musical organizations, as well as a director of several.

Space does not permit recalling many others in the audience whom we should like to mention. Although the great majority of those present were parents and friends of the boys, there were representations from other musical groups of suburban Boston present. Needless to say, members of the Board of Trustees and Alumni Association were on hand to note with pleasure the musical ability of the 1947 band.

Included on the program were a number of solos, and those playing these pieces richly earned long and sustained applause. Two standard concert overtures and a selection from Gilbert and Sullivan music were well received. The playing of the novelty "The Farm and Trades School Has a Band" was one of the highlights of the program.

Our bandmaster, Captain Frank L. Warren, was in charge of the program and his genial and pleasant stage personality helped greatly in making the afternoon one long to be remembered. Captain Warren has directed our band since 1923 and has had many happy experiences with our boys as well as teaching and leading a long line of fine, successful F. T.S. bands. After the conclusion of this concert he remarked that he couldn't remember a better performance by an F.T. S. band, and to which remark a great many will agree whole-heartedly.

The program played and the names of those in the band follows:

PROGRAM

MARCH—Peerless *Huff*

OVERTURE– Cyrene *Fulton*

BASS SOLO—The Beauty Polka *Ferrazzi*
Berton E. Cadorath, Jr.

CORNET SOLO—Marguerite *Smith*
Harold D. Lowery, Jr.

SELECTION—H. M. S. Pinafore *Sullivan*

CORNET DUET—My Buddy *Kleffman*
Lowell and Paul Keith

EUPHONIUM SOLO—Steve's Delight *Albee*
Stephen J. Zevitas

SONG—The Bells of St. Mary's *Adams*
James L. Angelos

TROMBONE SOLO—Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep
Ralph L. Gale

SELECTION — Concert Overture in G Minor

NOVELTY —Farm and Trades School Has a Band

FINALE—National Anthem
William T. Warfield, Vocal Soloist

Roster of the Band

Clarinets
Richard P. Allen
Paul Calloe
Hans M. Christensen
Robert W. Closson
Norman F. Dewing, Jr.
Kenneth W. Duquet
Richard A. Gavin
Jon F. Hines
Thurmond Hood, Jr.
Theodore L. Jones
Vernon R. Lincoln
Karl Mills

Trombones
William R. Bunting
Richard G. Burton
Ralph L. Gale
Robert E. Lucien
Richard E. McPhee
Burleigh M. Pratt
Samuel B. Whiting

Drums
Wiley L. Bishop
Paul W. Horton
William T. Warfield
David W. Simmons
William H. Manson

Basses
James L. Angelos
Berton E. Cadorath
John S. Higgins
Maurice E. McAllister

Euphonium
Stephen J. Zevitas

Altos
Ernest D. Cornish
Donald S. Duquet
Edwin W. Gray
Leslie T. Gilmore
Harold W. Hill
Leonard N. Lapham

Cornets
Robert E. Carpenter
Robert M. Davenport
Edward P. Doerr
J. Lowell Keith
Paul D. Keith
Harold D. Lowery, Jr.
Edward L. Melvin
Lawrence J. McManus
Robert A. Patterson
Walter C. Roberts
Malcolm C. Wiley

A. Wallace Fitt, Drum Major

Spring

Spring has come and winter has gone
The birds return to fill the air with song.
All the little flowers which have been asleep
Will awaken now to fill the air with fragrance sweet.
Mother Nature will whisper low,
"Awaken! Awaken! My children dear
Put on your dresses of green and gold"

Karl Mills

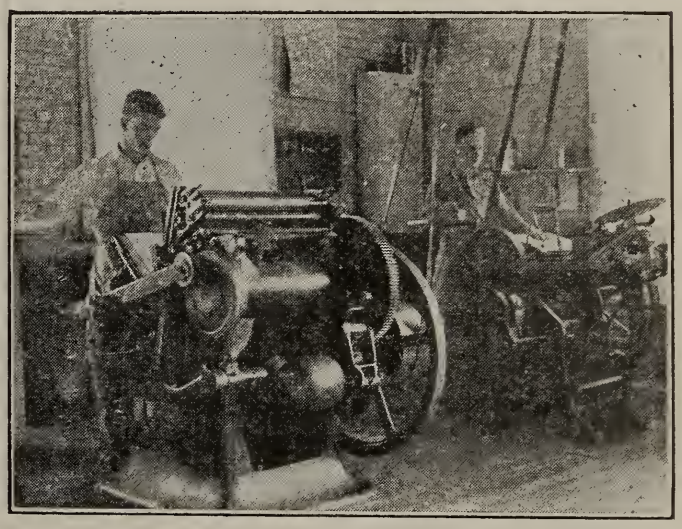
Baseball

With the coming of the spring season all the boys begin playing baseball and softball. Most of the older boys like baseball best, but the younger boys play softball more than they do baseball. I am in the sixth grade and play in the softball league which has three teams. The captains of the teams are older boys, Wiley L. Bishop, Leonard N. Lapham and Nelson Stearns. We have had many good games so far, and Bishop's team is in first place.

When we aren't playing we watch the baseball teams play. There are four teams and so far Wallace Fitt's team has not lost a game.

We follow the major league games too, and most of us are Red Sox fans.

Ernest D. Cornish



Learning the Printing Trade

Printing

In 1881 the first elementary school printing course was begun at this school, and the first press, a Golding Official, is still at F.T.S. A small hand press, it is a curio, and especially interesting to those in the printing trade.

The printing course has proved to be very valuable since its beginning and a great number of our graduates are engaged in the industry.

All the printed matter used by the school is done by the boys, and occasionally printed work for friends in town is done. A wide variety of jobs gives excellent training, especially in printing fundamentals.

Exceptional opportunities await those who have prepared themselves for a life work in this industry,—one of the greatest industries in the nation.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by
THE FARM AND TRADES SCHOOL
Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor

A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS OF EXCELLENT CHARACTER SUPPORTED BY ENDOWMENTS. TUITION FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

PAUL CALLOE - - - - - - - - *Editor*

Vol. 51 No. 1 May 1947

Subscription Price - - - One Dollar Per Year

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The Farm and Trades School, what is it? Just another school? The list of questions by the uninformed is longer than this and runs almost identical from the hundreds of people who make inquiry. We can definitely say that there is not another in the world exactly like ours although there are, perhaps, a hundred others following along our basic conception of the complete development and home life of boys.

Our Headmaster is asked quite often to give a talk at Rotary, Kiwanis, and various other clubs and organizations. His greatest problem is in cutting down to a half hour his information about the School and thus emphasizing the salient points. The history of the School could easily consume much more than the time allotment. Edward Rowe Snow devotes 24 pages to the School in his book, "The Islands of Boston Harbor," and incidentally, has included the School in several other of his noted publications. However, the history of the School, with all its pioneer work in education, is really only background and must be condensed as introductory in any brief talk on the School.

The work of the School, as outlined in a talk at the Rotary Club luncheon in Wilmington, Massachusetts, can be described as having six main objectives:

Character Development
Learning to Get Along with Others
Study of Book Fundamentals
The Practical Study of Nature of Life Through Farm Experience
Learning Vocations by Practical Experience
Participation in a Wide Range of Avocations

Our school provides a well rounded program of excellent academic courses which provide the essentials of book knowledge and leads to college for those who continue their formal academic education. The practical training and vocational experience equips a boy to enter any one of

several life occupations. The home life, living quarters, and abundance of good food provide inspiration and a feeling of high standards so important in the life of a growing boy. The unique setting and beautiful Thompson's Island can hardly be matched. The program of avocations, sports, hobbies and music is as essential to a well balanced personality as the other elements of our everyday life.

The really great strides our boys make in their development is an inspiration to those working for this great achievement. Our graduates, by their leadership in many communities and their vocational success in many business and professional lines, prove very definitely that our way of life for boys is very complete and well balanced.

Topics in Brief

The outstanding event of the month was the spring concert given by the Band at Faneuil Hall on April 27. A complete account of this concert may be found on page one.

This is the season for the boys to take an active interest in track and field sports. We have equipment and facilities for all the principal events. Upon occasion the boys compete with groups from other schools or with church groups. The track season comes to a climax on Memorial Day, when the Joyce Easter Meacham track meet takes place.

The Band looks forward to a busy season with its participation in the State and New England school music festivals, and the important part it plays in the forthcoming Graduation program and Alumni Field Day observances.

We had a showing of an outstanding motion picture, "This is New England" on May 3. This film, produced by the N.H. railroad, emphasized the chief points in the history of New England since its discovery and exploration by the British.

Through the courtesy of Commissioner Sullivan, of the Boston Police Department. we have acquired a set of uniforms formerly used by the Junior Police, a wartime organization. Ivers E. Winmill, '23, a member of the Police Department for the past decade, and our band director, Mr. Warren, had the uniforms delivered to the school only recently. We thank Commissioner Sullivan for his interest.

The two upper classes gave interesting assembly programs during the month. The sophomores gave a mock trial and the freshmen a sloyd discussion. The freshmen used actual sloyd models and tools, in their program and it was very good.

The boys have shown much interest in the Grew Garden Prize contest, and the individual flower garden plots have been assigned. Each of the boys who wishes, plants and cares for his garden and prizes are given for excellence in this hobby. The flower garden area, just north of the orchard is a beautiful and popular spot during the summer months.

Campus scene—Cattle Barn

Baseball and softball games have been the popular recreation favorites of the boys during the month. Leagues in each of these sports have been organized. The baseball league is made up of four teams, and the softball league three. None of the boys play in both leagues. We plan to have each team play at least two games weekly and the interest in both of these sports will remain high throughout the summer.

The graduating class, in an effort to bolster its financial standing, conducted an auction on April 30. Goods were collected from every available source and sold to the highest bidder. For two hours items ranging from skates to overcoats found new owners. Financially, the auction was certainly a success; and a howling one especially when packages of home made candy and boxes of chocolates donated by faculty members were put on bid.

Calendar 90 Years Ago, April 1857

As kept by the Superintendent

9. Sold to Mr. Pope of Squantum, two cows and four calves for $65.

15. Went to city with the boat to get things, oranges, nuts, etc. for boys on Fast Day.

26. Received a call from Jacob B. Brown who was a pupil here ten years since, now first officer of ship Bell Rock and is a fine specimen of a man.

The Auction

Every year the sophomore class has an auction to raise money for the class treasury. The members of the class get everything that they can from the boys in the school, and from the instructors. The result is that there is always a lot of things to be auctioned. There were harmonicas, flashlights, boots, shoes, games, skates, baseball gloves and much clothing. The auction was held in the assembly hall and we had a lot of fun.

G. Henry Tangen

Additional Alumni Notes

WILLIAM M. HALL, '27, is Railway Express agent at Sears Roebuck, Boston. He plays trombone professionally, doing such business as the Shrine Circus, Rodeo, as well as innumerable dance engagements. He lives at 72 Webster Street in Medford, Mass.

FREDERICK E. MUNICH, '20, was one of our more frequent correspondents when he was in the service, writing often from India, where he was stationed for 2½ years. He has resumed civilian pursuits as an engineer with the Western Union Telegraph Company in New York City. Among his duties is to determine the proper lighting, acoustics, floor covering, clocks, time stamps, time service and call circuits for Western Union offices and buildings throughout the country. He is not married. His address is 105 E 19 St., N. Y. C., 3, New York.

The Oldest School Band in the United States

NOTE: The following excellent article is reprinted from the Souvenir Program of the Eastern Massachusetts Music Festival. The great festival took place in Medford, on May 10. More than 100 bands and orchestras and choral groups took part.

In 1857, ninety years ago, a few boys in a small school on Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor, (now the Farm and Trades School) got a thrill from making music out of tissue-covered combs, plus a few violins and a huge old fashioned bass fiddle. It worked well. Soon a cornopean, a saxhorn and drum were added. A

year later, in 1858, it ceased to be merely fun; it became a serious music effort. An informal concert was held, and was so successful that the school authorities added a small set of band instruments on trial. In 1859 Mr. John R. Morse, then principal of the Farm and Trades School, secured Alonzo Draper, a Boston musician, as instructor. The boys prepared, under his direction, for a parade in Boston. So much favorable comment followed the appearance of the lads in Boston that the trustees of the school returned the borrowed instruments and a complete set of new instruments was purchased outright.

Two years later the Civil War broke out and Mr. Morse and fifteen of his boys enlisted in the Union Army as musicians. At the close of the war the Farm and Trades School band took part in the famous Peace Jubilee Concert, when Patrick S. Gilmore famous band leader of the time, directed 1000 musicians.

From that time on the Farm and Trades School band became better known and more popular. Mr. Morse, principal of the school, acted as its conductor from the beginning, holding that position for fifty years. He was followed by Harry E. Brenton, an alumnus of the school, who was a cornetist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Howard B. Ellis, another alumnus, succeeded Mr. Brenton, and Mr. Frank L. Warren, the present Director, followed Mr. Ellis. Mr. Warren is well known throughout this part of the country, being bandmaster of several well known musical groups. He was chief bandmaster of the Yankee Division, the bandmaster of the 101st Regiment, Corps of Engineers, M.N.G., and vice-president of the United States Army Bandmen's Association, First Army Corps Area.

Mr. Clifton E. Albee, another alumnus of the school, presently assists Mr. Warren. He has held this position for over 20 years. In all its history the band has had only the four leaders named above, with Mr. Warren, now directing, having held the post since 1923.

Mr. Warren's aim has always been not only to maintain the band at top efficiency but to see that the youngsters go ahead with their music after graduation. Music educators are amazed at the results achieved at the school. The school's enrollment is small (normally fewer than 100 boys), yet the band ordinarily numbers more than 50% of the enrollment. The headmaster, Mr. William M. Meacham, is thorougly in favor of band music in the curriculum, and has left nothing undone to enrich the musical education and experience of the boys under his charge.

The band is never permitted to play professionally, (for profit), and this policy has come to be adopted by school bands generally throughout the country.

The experiment which began on Thompson's Island in 1857 has indeed spread. The seed sown there multiplied many fold until today that which began as an experiment is basic in the education of American youth. In an article written about the band several years ago, Mr. Albee, the present Assistant Director, transposed the old saying, "The richest child is poor without musical training." He thinks it should read, "The poorest child is rich with musical training." This seems to be the idea at the Farm and Trades School. It may not be too much to say that it is the idea throughout the secondary schools of America.

Note

Our band was signally honored at this festival by considerable press and radio publicity, and the playing of "The Farm and Trades School Band March" by the massed bands, composed by Mr. Albee and directed by Mr. Warren.

The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

RAYMOND THOMAS, '26, President
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Hyde Park, Mass.

GEORGE E. KANE, '81 lives at 197 Dennett Street, Portsmouth, N. H., in which city he has made his home since leaving the School 66 years ago. Nearing his 80th birthday he is in good health and enjoying life to the utmost. He is a retired railroad man, whose hobby is antiques, and he has a large collection of curios. Fond of river life, he spends much of the summer at his camp on the Piscataqua River. In the winter he does a great deal of reading.

On last Jan. 9 he and Mrs. Kane celebrated their golden wedding anniverary and held open house for over 200 of their friends and relatives. They have six children, three daughters and three sons, all of Portsmouth.

Mr. Kane visited the School last June and we look forward to having him with us again at the next Alumni Field Day.

ROGER K. SMITH, '23, lives at Arlington Village, Apartment 224, Arlington, Virginia. He has almost completed five years of overseas flying as navigator of four engine airplanes. For four years he navigated planes for the A. A. F. and for the past year T. W. A. planes. Among the licenses and certificates he holds is a commercial pilot license. He is co-owner of a small plane. The personages who flew in the care of Lt. Smith during the war years included diplomatic and military leaders of the Allied governments.

LT. LEANDER E. DOREY, USMC, Class of '23, is stationed at 545-B MEMQ, Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, N. C. He is the Officer in charge of the Dispatch Traffic Center and has been at his present location since August 23, 1946.

He joined the U. S. Marine Corps on March 26, 1928 and has had over 19 years of continuous service. He had extremely important assignments during the past war, especially on Guadalcanal. His overseas service totals nearly ten years. Before returning to the States he was Communication Officer, Provisional Marine Air Base at Omura, Japan.

He is married and has a two year old daughter, Susan J. His permanent rank is Commissioned Warrant Officer.

He has always retained a deep interest in the School, and in the Alumni Association. His duties prevent him from being present at many of our gatherings but he does attend when he can.

DOUGLAS M. BASHAW, '40, lives at 147 Midland, Highland Park 3, Detroit 3, Michigan. He attends the Lawrence Institute of Technology studying Electronics Engineering. There are 2100 students at Lawrence Tech and they come from all parts of the country. He finds it necessary to work very hard to keep up in his courses especially since he has a part time job repairing radios.

CHESTER C. MCLEOD, '45, graduates from Whitman High School in June. He had the misfortune to receive a serious injury during a basketball game. He made an excellent record as a high school athlete being named on an all-star South Shore football team.

A happy time was had by informal reunions at the Faneuil Hall concert as graduates, old and young, gathered to hear with pleasure the 1947 F.T.S. band.